

Production No. 8F05

The Simpsons

"Like Father, Like Clown"

Written by

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FINAL DELIVERY

Date 4/26/91

"LIKE FATHER, LIKE CLOWN"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
RABBI KRUSTOFSKY.....JACKIE MASON
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
REVEREND LOVEJOY.....HARRY SHEARER
APU.....HANK AZARIA
LOIS PENNYCANDY.....PAMELA HAYDEN
CHIEF WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
SEXY FEMALE RECORDING...PAMELA HAYDEN
BARFLY.....HARRY SHEARER
MAN #1.....DAN CASTELLANETA
WOMAN.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
YOUNG KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
RABBI #1.....HANK AZARIA
MAN #2.....HARRY SHEARER
YIDDLE.....HARRY SHEARER
WAITRESS.....DORIS GRAU
ANNOUNCER.....DAN CASTELLANETA

MONSIGNOR KENNETH DALEY.DAN CASTELLANETA

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CALLER.....HANK AZARIA

RABBI #2.....HARRY SHEARER

ROWDY RABBI.....HARRY SHEARER

MARTIAN.....HANK AZARIA

D.J.....HARRY SHEARER

MAGAZINE STORE OWNER....HANK AZARIA

STAGEHAND.....HANK AZARIA

Like Father, Like Clown

By

Jay Kogen & Wallace Wolodarsky

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. KRUSTY THE CLOWN SHOW - DAY

It is the very end of the show. KRUSTY is doing an axe-throwing exhibition with SIDESHOW MEL in an Ed Ames type outline. There are several axes embedded behind him including one in the curtain and one under his crotch. Krusty is getting ready to throw the last one.

KRUSTY

I hold in my hand the final axe.

The AUDIENCE CHEERS & APPLAUDS WILDLY. Krusty reacts.

SFX: DRUMROLL

Krusty throws the axe at Sideshow Mel; the axe tumbles wrong and the handle hits Mel in the forehead with a KLUNK, knocking him out. Mel slumps down but is still pinned to the board by axes.

The audience CHEERS.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Uh-oh. Let's get a doctor out here!

A CLOWN DOCTOR with a spinning hypno wheel reflector and a medical bag full of saws runs out.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

No, a real Doctor.

The clown doctor dejectedly exits and a real DOCTOR attends to Mel.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Well, kids, that's all the time we have
for today.

The band starts **PLAYING**. It is like the closing theme to
Saturday Night Live, including the trademark **SAXOPHONE**. *

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

I'd like to thank Sideshow Mel,
Corporal Punishment, Tina Ballerina,
oh, and from "Knots Landing" Miss Donna
Mills. Oh, she was a sport.

Behind Krusty we see a woozy MEL being held up by CORPORAL
PUNISHMENT, a FAT WOMAN in a tutu and DONNA MILLS waving.
KRUSTY nods to the BAND LEADER who **PLAYS** the opening
strains to the Krusty Closing theme.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

(SINGING) We've had lots and lots and
lots and lots and lots of fun/ but now
the time has come... to go/ if this old
clown was found dead in his bed
tomorrow/ I'd be in heaven still doing
this show.

Krusty tugs his ear.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

(SPOKEN) See you some other time!

Krusty **LAUGHS** as the end theme plays. The kids **CHEER**. As
soon as the red light on the camera goes out, Krusty's face
falls and he hurries off stage.

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

As he walks through the wings, a **STAGEHAND** drapes a towel
over his shoulders and an attractive woman in her late
thirties, **MISS PENNYCANDY**, catches up and walks with him.
She beams at him.

PENNYCANDY

(ARDENTLY) Great show, Krusty! I
really laughed when you...

KRUSTY

Yeah, yeah, where's my nicotine gum?

She hands him a square of gum which he begins to CHEW.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Ahh... that's the stuff. Damn, I'm
exhausted. Those kids were like ice
out there.

They continue walking.

PENNYCANDY

You've got a 4:30 Merchandising
meeting.

KRUSTY

Cancel it.

PENNYCANDY

Therapist?

KRUSTY

Cancel it.

PENNYCANDY

Personal trainer?

KRUSTY

Cancel it.

PENNYCANDY

The opening line on the Giants is five
and a half.

KRUSTY

Put a dime on it.

PENNYCANDY

Thank you dinner with Bart Simpson?

KRUSTY

I don't know any Bart Simpson.

PENNYCANDY

Krusty, he's the boy who saved you from
jail.

WATER DISSOLVE
TO:

CLIP FROM "KRUSTY GETS BUSTED" : KRUSTY WALKS DOWN THE
COURTHOUSE STEPS (NOTE: PICK UP MATCHING REACTION SHOT OF
BART TO HELP EDIT.)

CHIEF WIGGUM

Well, we... uh... made a terrible,
terrible mistake. Uh... won't happen
again.

KRUSTY

Well, the important thing is that I
regained the trust of the children.
But there was one boy who trusted me
all along. Bart?

BART

Yes, sir?

KRUSTY

Thank you.

WATER DISSOLVE
TO:

INT. BACKSTAGE AT THE KRUSTY SHOW - DAY

KRUSTY

(REMEMBERING FONDLY) Oh yeah. (THEN)

Cancel it.

Krusty walks into his dressing room and **CLOSES** the door behind him.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

MAGGIE is by the dog's water bowl nudging SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER out of the way and **LAPPING** up the water. At the stove, MARGE pushes down the cover of a pot, forcing down the legs of a mysterious animal. The phone **RINGS**. When Marge reaches for the phone, the legs of the animal spring back up, lifting the pot cover.

MARGE

Hello?

INT. MISS PENNYCANDY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

On the wall is a framed picture of Krusty standing with Ronald Reagan, Richard Nixon and the Pope, as well as Krusty with the Beatles and Krusty and Alfred Hitchcock sitting in directors' chairs looking over their shoulders. There is a framed eight-by-ten of Krusty lovingly set on her desk.

Intercut between Marge and Pennycandy.

PENNYCANDY

(INTO PHONE) Mrs. Simpson, this is Lois Pennycandy, Krusty the Clown's executive assistant.

MARGE

Oh hello, Mrs. Pennycandy.

PENNYCANDY

(SIGHS) It's Miss Pennycandy, I can assure you. (GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS) I'm sorry to inform you that Krusty will once again not be joining Bart for dinner.

MARGE

*

Oh, dear. This is the fifth time he's cancelled. How can he hurt someone who loves him so?

PENNYCANDY

*

(GAZING AT PICTURE) Oh, Mrs. Simpson, I've wasted my womanhood asking that same question. (THEN) I apologize for him, something really important came up at the last minute.

INT. KRUSTY'S APT. - DAY

Krusty is wearing rubber gloves scrubbing the shower with a scrub brush. A caddy filled with equipment -- sponge, Comet cleanser, etc.-- is next to him.

KRUSTY (O.S.)

Lousy mildew. (BEAT) Eh, that's good enough.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - AT THAT MOMENT

MARGE

Well, thank you for calling. Good-bye.

Marge hangs up the phone and SIGHS.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BART'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

BART is on the phone talking to MILHOUSE. In the foreground on a desk is a bottle of 'Krusty Non-Toxic Kologne', the label reads: "The Smell of the Bigtop. Warning: Use in well ventilated area. May stain furniture. Prolonged use can cause chemical burns."

BART

(INTO PHONE) Okay Milhouse, how many
Krusty autographs should I put you down
for?

INTER CUT

INT. MILHOUSE'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

MILHOUSE

(INTO PHONE) A hundred.

BACK TO BART

BART

(INTO PHONE) Consider it done.

Bart hangs up the phone. He crosses to his desk and **SLAPS** on some cologne.

BART (CONT'D)

(SINGING) You're walking along the
street/ Or you're at a party/ Or else
you're alone/ and then you suddenly
dig... dig... dig.

CUT TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

An excited Bart **BURSTS** through the door. A dressed up HOMER and LISA look sadly at him.

BART

(SINGING) This could be the start of
something big...

MARGE

Bart, I'm sorry, but Krusty isn't
coming to dinner tonight.

Bart's face falls.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BART'S ROOM - EVENING

Bart **CLEARs** his desk with a sweep of his arm and then pulls
out a pen and a piece of stationery that says: "From the
Brain of Bart", with an illustration of a human brain in
the top two corners. Bart begins **WRITING**.

BART

(**SADLY**) Dear Krusty, this is Bart
Simpson, Krusty Buddy #16302
respectfully returning his Badge...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PENNYCANDY'S OFFICE - DAY

Pennycandy is **READING** the letter.

PENNYCANDY/BART (V.O.)

(**WITH GROWING ANGER**) ...I always
suspected that nothing in life
mattered. Now I know for sure. Get
bent, Bart Simpson.

Pennycandy puts down the letter, revealing a face burning
with rage.

INT. KRUSTY'S DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Krusty is holding a phone receiver in his hand and looking
at a card featuring a picture of a large breasted WOMAN and
the number "1-909-SEX-CHAT." Krusty picks up the phone and
DIALS.

SEXY FEMALE RECORDING (V.O.)

(OVER THE PHONE) You've reached the party line! In a moment you will be connected to a hot party with some of the world's most beautiful women. Now, let's join the party!

FOUR WAY SPLIT SCREEN

In the screens are FOUR MEN, all in their own rooms on the phone, including Krusty, Apu and two of the barflies from Moe's.

KRUSTY

Hello?

BARFLY

Hello?

APU

Are, are there any women here?

KRUSTY

Hello?

APU

Are you a beautiful woman?

KRUSTY

Do I sound like a beautiful woman?

BACK IN KRUSTY'S DRESSING ROOM

Pennycandy BURSTS into the room, letter in hand. Krusty nervously hangs up. She sticks the letter in his face.

PENNYCANDY

Read this.

Krusty takes the letter and looks at it very closely.

KRUSTY

(STRUGGLING) Uh...ehhh... deeee...
eeee... deear...

PENNYCANDY

It says that the little boy who never
lost faith in you has lost faith in
you. Krusty, you are going to Bart
Simpson's house for dinner tonight.

KRUSTY

But I have plans.

Pennycandy **SLAPS** him.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Hey, not the face.

PENNYCANDY

Why you, maddening, impossible man. If
you don't go tonight, I won't be here
tomorrow.

KRUSTY

Oh, alright. I'll go.

Pennycandy **HUGS** Krusty.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

But you better let the Children's
Hospital know I won't be at their
fundraiser.

Krusty exits.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DAY

The house is spotless. Bart sadly walks in the door.

MARGE

Bart, wipe your feet.

BART

*

(BITTERLY) Why bother, they'll just get dirty again. You can wipe and wipe and wipe and wipe but you'll never get the grime off this dirty world.

MARGE

Bart, I've got some good news. Krusty the Clown is coming to dinner tonight.

BART

He is, for sure?

MARGE

Yes.

BART'S EYES

EXTREME CLOSE UP

BART

(ECSTATIC) Oh, oh, yes, I knew he'd come.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The Simpsons sit on their couch impatiently awaiting the arrival of their special guest. From behind the door we hear a Krusty LAUGH, a bicycle horn HONK, and "shave-and-a-hair-cut-two-bits" is KNOCKED out on the door.

HOMER

You think it's him?

Bart OPENS the door and Krusty enters with a somersault.

KRUSTY

Hi, kids! Hey, hey!

His face winds up next to Maggie's. Maggie begins to CRY and runs behind Marge's leg for protection.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

(UNCOMFORTABLE) Heh, heh, cute kid.

(THEN) Good to see you, Bart.

Bart shakes Krusty's hand and the hand comes off. Homer LAUGHS UPROARIOUSLY along with Bart, Lisa and Marge. There is another KNOCK at the door. Bart opens the door revealing Milhouse dressed in a suit and tie. *

MILHOUSE

(ARTIFICIAL) Oh, hi Bart. I was just in the neighborhood. Why Krusty the Clown! What a surprise.

BART

Milhouse. You can come in and drop the (SHA-ROD) charade.

Milhouse waves at his MOTHER who is still waiting in her car. She drives off. Bart leads Milhouse in the house. They see Krusty is riding a unicycle and balancing a feather duster on his nose. Homer is still LAUGHING.

BART (CONT'D)

Krusty, you don't have to be "on" tonight.

HOMER

What are you talking about? Of course he does.

LISA

*

No, Dad, Krusty is our guest. (TO KRUSTY) Your pratfalls and Punchinello antics aren't necessary here.?

BART

Yeah, just relax and be yourself.

Krusty gets off the unicycle and lowers his head. The feather duster continues to stick straight out defying gravity.

KRUSTY

Ohh, that's a relief.

He pulls the feather duster off his nose with a SUCTION SOUND and sticks it in his bag. He pulls a monkey out of the bag.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

(TO MONKEY) Go wait in the car.

The monkey roller skates out of the house.

HOMER

(MOANS) We could have seen a monkey.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - LATER

The family is waiting for dinner.

MILHOUSE

Hey Krusty, tell us about Sideshow Mel!

KRUSTY

Oh well, Mel and I don't socialize much these days. We used to have a few drinks between shows, but then he got married, beneath himself, if you ask me, and well, it's been awkward.

Marge enters carrying the main course.

MARGE

Who wants to say grace?

LISA

Why don't we let our guest do it?

Milhouse CLASPS his hands in prayer.

MILHOUSE

Bless us O lord...

Bart WHACKS Milhouse in the head.

MILHOUSE

Hey!

BART

Krusty, would you do the honors?

KRUSTY

Well, alright. I'm a little rusty, but
I'll try. Baruch ata, addonoy, elohanu
melech ha-olom, ha-motzee le-chem mean
ha-aretz.

Homer bursts out LAUGHING.

HOMER

He's talking funny talk.

LISA

No, Dad, that's Hebrew. Krusty must be
Jewish.

HOMER

A Jewish entertainer? Get outta here.

LISA

*

Dad, There are many prominent Jewish entertainers including Lauren Bacall, Dinah Shore, William Shatner, and Mel Brooks.

HOMER

Mel Brooks is Jewish?

Krusty starts to SOB.

BART

Krusty, are you alright?

KRUSTY

Yes, it's just that saying the brucha brings back a lot of painful memories.

(GETTING EMOTIONAL) The old days...

my... my father...

Everyone at the table becomes uncomfortable as Krusty breaks down and begins to CRY. Krusty wipes his eyes with a long chain of multi-colored handkerchiefs he pulls out of his sleeve. At the end of the chain is a big pair of boxer shorts. Krusty blows his nose with a loud HONK. Homer tries to suppress a LAUGH, but bursts out LAUGHING anyway.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - EVENING

Lisa looks at the SOBBING clown.

LISA

Poor Krusty, he's like a black velvet
painting come to life.

MARGE

Krusty, why don't you tell us what's
wrong? You'll feel better.

Everyone, AD-LIBS encouragement for Krusty to tell his
story.

BART

Yeah, spill your guts, man.

LISA

Come on...

HOMER

Yeah, Krusty, tell us.

KRUSTY

*

Well, okay. First of all, my real name
isn't Krusty the Klown, it's Hershel
Krustofsky. My father was a rabbi.
His father was a rabbi. His father's
father -- well, you get the idea.

DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK

EXT. LOWER EAST SIDE OF SPRINGFIELD - DAY

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY walks down the street with a SEVEN-YEAR-OLD KRUSTY. They are both wearing the traditional black clothes of Orthodox Jews. The street looks very much like the lower east side of New York City, circa 1920.

KRUSTY (V.O.)

My father was the most respected man in
the lower east side of Springfield.
People would come from miles around to
ask his advice.

A MAN approaches the Rabbi.

MAN #1

Reb Krustofsky, should I finish
college?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Yes. No one is poor except he who
lacks knowledge.

A WOMAN steps up to the Rabbi.

WOMAN

Rabbi, should I have another child?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Yes, another child would be a blessing
on your house.

Another MAN approaches.

MAN #2

Rabbi, should I buy a Chrysler?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Could you rephrase that as an ethical question?

MAN #2

*

(STRUGGLING) Hmm... is it right to buy a Chrysler?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(MAKING A PRONOUNCEMENT) Yes, for great is the car with power steering and dyna-flow suspension.

The man exits. Krusty turns to his father.

YOUNG KRUSTY

Papa, when I grow up, can I be a clown?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

No! A clown is not a respected member of the community.

YOUNG KRUSTY

But I want to make people laugh.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Hershel, life is not fun. Life is serious. Seltzer is for drinking, not for spraying. Pie is for noshing, not for throwing.

KRUSTY

*

But papa, can't a person...

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(INTERRUPTING) But nothing! You'll do
as I say or you'll get such a zetz that
you won't even know what hit you.

Young Krusty sadly looks over at a store: "Yiddle's
Practical Jokes, Magic Tricks, and Medical Supplies."
Through the window we can see whoopee cushions, fake nose
and glasses, dribble glasses, magic wands, and crutches.
From a REVERSE ANGLE through the window, we see Krusty in a
reverie until the Rabbi yanks him out of the frame.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. YESHIVA CLASSROOM - DAY

KRUSTY (V.O.)

Dad wanted me to follow in his
footsteps, but the pull of clowning was
too strong. I got my first big laughs
at Yeshiva impersonating my father.

A thirteen-year-old Krusty is standing up in front of the
class. He holds a mop to his face which he strokes like a
beard.

YOUNG KRUSTY

Blah, blah, blah, Moses! Blah, blah,
blah, some prayer!

The students LAUGH. Rabbi Krustofsky enters from the back
of the room. He begins STRANGLING Young Krusty, a la Bart
and Homer.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

HOMER

Boy, you don't have to follow in my
footsteps.

BART

Don't worry, I don't even like using
the bathroom after you.

HOMER

Why you little...

Homer starts to **STRANGLE** Bart, a la Krusty and his father.

LISA

Krusty, please continue.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KRUSTOFSKY HOME - EVENING

Rabbi Krustofsky is **POUNDING** on the bathroom door.

KRUSTY (V.O.)

My father tried to extinguish the
comedy bug. But it was no use.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

What are you doing in that bathroom?

KRUSTY (O.S.)

Go away.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Open the door this instant.

He **BREAKS** open the door revealing Krusty covered with pie
filling and holding a seltzer bottle aimed at his own face.
There are several pie tins around Krusty's feet. Rabbi
Krustofsky is horrified.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY (CONT'D)

Oy gevalt!

KRUSTY

*

Close the door!

DISSOLVE TO:

MONTAGE

A. Inside "Yiddle's Practical Jokes, Magic Tricks, and Medical Supplies" we see Young Krusty now wearing a baggy clown outfit. As he stands, smiling, in front of the mirror, MR. YIDDLE straightens his shoulders.

YIDDLE

Like a glove it fits.

Krusty wears the clown suit throughout the montage.

B. We see Krusty performing at a Shriner's convention. Krusty holds up two Shriner fezes to his chest as if they are breasts to the SCREAMING LAUGHTER of drunken conventioners.

INT. GROSSINGERS - ON STAGE - NIGHT

Krusty is in the process of TWISTING out an elaborate balloon sculpture.

KRUSTY (V.O.)

It was my big break. A Talmudic
conference in the Catskills and I was
the entertainment.

Krusty has finished his sculpture. It's a Star of David. The CROWD, consisting entirely of rabbis, APPLAUDS.

KRUSTY (V.O. CONT'D)

But the Lord works in mysterious ways.

Krusty twists the balloon again, this time into a menorah. He then GASPS.

KRUSTY'S POV

We see his father talking to other rabbis.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

Do you know that my son Hershel was
first in his Yeshiva class. As a
matter of fact, he was voted "The Most
Likely to Hear God."

RABBI #1

Oh go on, Hymie. You're exaggerating again. You're so proud of your son.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

A rabbi never exaggerates. A rabbi composes; he creates thoughts; he tells stories that may never have happened, but he does not exaggerate.

KRUSTY (V.O. CONT'D)

My father would have never have suspected a thing, were it not for one rowdy rabbi.

ROWDY RABBI

Hey, Funny-man!

The ROWDY RABBI picks up a seltzer bottle and SQUIRTS Krusty. The other rabbis LAUGH as Krusty's makeup is washed away. Rabbi Krustofsky goes from HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER to stunned silence.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Hershel? Hershell! Oy vay iz mir!

A HUSH falls on the crowd as Rabbi Krustofsky stands up.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY (CONT'D)

You have brought shame on our family.
Oh, if you were a musician or a jazz singer, this I could forgive. But this? I never want to see you again.
You... you... clown!

WATER DISSOLVE
TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Krusty **BREAKS DOWN** again.

KRUSTY

(PULLING HIMSELF TOGETHER) And I
haven't seen my father since.

LISA

That is so sad.

HART

Krusty, do you think about your father
a lot?

KRUSTY

All the time. Except when I'm at the
track. Then it's all business.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MIDNIGHT

CLOSE ON the coffee table. We see empty dessert dishes,
coffee cups, etc. PULL BACK to reveal everyone looking
extremely tired. Lisa is asleep and **SNORING**. Krusty
however is quite **TALKATIVE** and chipper. He is going
through the Simpson family photo album. We SEE the
following pictures, with captions:

A) "Bart's First Haircut" Homer is holding down a crying
little Bart to keep him in the chair. Taped next to the
photo is a lock of Bart's hair in the shape of a triangle.

B) "Bart Learns To Swim" Homer is throwing Bart into the
water. A horrified Bart is in mid-air spread eagled over
the water.

C) "Duff Gardens" Homer and Bart are on a roller coaster.
Homer holds a horrified Bart above his head as they go over
a drop.

D) "4th of July" At a picnic, Bart is holding a large
firecracker. Homer has finished lighting it and a
terrified Bart watches the sparks fly.

KRUSTY

I can't believe that little boy in
those pictures is you, Bart.

BART

Yeah, I've got a lot of fond memories.

Bart YAWNS.

MARGE

Well, look at the time. Almost
midnight.

KRUSTY

Do you have any yearbooks?

HOMER

(ANNOYED) No, that's it. You've seen
everything.

KRUSTY

(CHANGING THE SUBJECT) So, Milhouse,
know any knock-knock jokes?

Milhouse begins to WEEP.

MILHOUSE

(CRYING) I want to go home.

MARGE

Homer, maybe you better take Milhouse
home.

HOMER

Gladly.

Homer grabs a CRYING Milhouse and heads out the door.
Krusty is over at the Simpsons' record collection.

KRUSTY

Wow. The Concert For Bangladesh.

Krusty puts it on the record player and we hear SITAR MUSIC.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

The front door opens and Krusty steps out. Marge, Lisa, and a sleepy Bart WAVE good-bye.

BART

Goodnight, Krusty. Sorry about your dad.

KRUSTY

Don't worry about me, I'm a survivor.

Krusty starts to go, then turns around.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Hey, did I leave my keys inside?

MARGE/LISA/BART

No!

Krusty finds his keys.

KRUSTY

Oh, yeah. Here they are. (LAUGHS)

They SHUT the door on him. Krusty's LAUGH fades as he walks away.

EXT. NEWSSTAND - NIGHT

We PAN across the magazine rack past several magazines: Ballpoint Pen Digest, Ballooning Monthly, Cooking With Coconut Magazine, Faberge Egg Owner, etc. until we reach Krusty who is looking at "Modern Jewish Father." He starts to CRY.

MAGAZINE STORE OWNER

Eh, what's the matter, clown?

KRUSTY

It's a long story. (PUTTING HIS ARM
AROUND THE OWNER) You see, my father
was a rabbi, my father's father was a
rabbi... and his father's father's
father was a rabbi...

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - LATE NIGHT

A lonely Krusty walks down the deserted streets of downtown
Springfield. He passes by an x-rated movie house. The
marquee reads: "For Your Thighs Only," "Crocodile Done
Me," and "Dr. Strangepants."

INT. BUS STATION - NIGHT.

Krusty is sitting at a coin-operated black and white
television in the back of a dingy bus station. He has a
pile of coins on top of the television. *

ON TV

We see a late night movie show GRAPHIC featuring an Oscar
bathed in spot lights.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Academy Award Playhouse now returns you
to "Hercules vs. The Martians."

The television CLICKS off.

BACK TO SCENE

Krusty DROPS another QUARTER in. We HEAR 1950's outer
space MUSIC.

MARTIAN (V.O.)

Welcome to our spaceship, mighty
Hercules.

INT. KRUSTY'S APT. - LATER

The clock reads 3 a.m. Krusty is sadly sitting in his
underwear (underpants and a sleeveless t-shirt). He picks
up the phone and begins to DIAL.

INT. RABBI KRUSTOFSKY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

An OLDER RABBI KRUSTOFSKY lies asleep in bed. He is jarred awake by the RINGING of the phone.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Hello? (BEAT) Hello? Anybody there?

INT. KRUSTY'S APT. - THAT MOMENT

Krusty is on the phone, too overcome to say anything.

INT. RABBI KRUSTOFSKY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

What's this? I hear a phone ring and
all of a sudden there's nothing. I'm
listening and there's no talking.

Hello. Mister, who are you? Why would
they call ya if they don't want to talk
to ya.

Over the phone the Rabbi can hear a LONG SIGH.

INT. KRUSTY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

We SEE Krusty sadly hang up the phone.

ON TV

TITLE CARD: "FIELD OF SCREAMS"

SCRATCHY and his SON are playing catch in a wheat field, a la The Natural. ITCHY and his SON drive up in a threshing machine and run them over. BLOOD RED WIPE TO Itchy and his son playing catch with Scratchy's head.

INT. KRUSTY THE CLOWN SHOW - CONTINUOUS

Krusty is moved, but he tries desperately to hide the pain.

KRUSTY

*

Didn't Itchy Jr. look happy playing
with his father? And didn't Scratchy
Jr. look happy playing with his dad
until they got run over by the
thresher? Wasn't that a beautiful
cartoon? (SOBBING) For the love of god,
cut to a commercial.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

BART

Poor Krusty.

LISA

A man who envies our family is a man
who needs help.

BART

We've got to do something.

LISA

(SERIOUS) Let's move.

Lisa CLICKS off the TV.

INT. REV. LOVEJOY'S OFFICE

BART

Reverend Lovejoy, we need you to help
us find a rabbi.

LOVEJOY

(TAKEN ABACK) Well... before you make any rash decisions, let me just remind you that the church is changing to meet the needs of today's young Christians.

LISA

No, no. We're not converting, we just want to find a Rabbi Krustofsky.

LOVEJOY

Rabbi Krustofsky? Why, I do a radio call-in show with him every Sunday night.

HART

Really?

LISA

I didn't know that.

LOVEJOY

Gee, I mention it in my sermon every week.

HART

Oh, oh, that radio show.

LISA

(COVERING) Oh yeah, it's all the kids talk about on Monday at school.

LOVEJOY

Oh, well. Why don't cha have a free t-shirt. You'll be the "coolest" kids on the playground.

Rev. Lovejoy hands them two t-shirts that say "Gabbin' About God."

BART

We'll put them on later. Now can you give us the rabbi's address?

LOVEJOY

Oh sure thing. Let me just check my "Non-Christian" rolodex.

EXT. TEMPLE BETH SPRINGFIELD - DAY

A marquee in front of the temple reads: Rabbi Hyman Krustofsky. In smaller letter underneath is written, "This Saturday: Coping with Christmas."

INT. RABBI'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The Rabbi is hunched over his desk, poring over a book using his finger to guide him, **MUTTERING** to himself. Bart and Lisa appear in the doorway.

LISA

Excuse us, Rabbi Krustofsky?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Oh, what can I do for you, my young friends?

BART

We came to talk to you about your son.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(GRAVELY) I have no son!

Rabbi Krustofsky **SLAMS** the door in their faces.

BART

*

Oh great, we came all this way and it's
the wrong guy.

EXT. RABBI'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

*

The rabbi opens the door.

*

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

I didn't mean that literally. Don't
you understand that my boy broke my
heart. He turned his back on our
traditions, and on our faith, and on
me. Now get out.

Rabbi Krustofsky SLAMS the door again.

*

■

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. RADIO STATION - NIGHT

We SEE a transmission tower with the call letters KBBL on the side.

SINGERS

(SINGING) K - B - B - L. Talk radio.

A DJ with a deep MELLIFLUOUS VOICE comes on.

D.J. (V.O.)

In order to keep our broadcasting
license, we devote Sunday night dead
time to public service shows of limited
appeal.

INT. RADIO STATION - THAT MOMENT

We SEE the deep-voiced announcer is a tiny, very NERDY MAN wearing a "Foghat" t-shirt.

D.J. (CONT'D)

In that spirit, we bring you "Gabbin'
about God," sponsored by Ace Religion
Supply where they say: "If we don't
got it, it ain't holy."

Religious theme MUSIC plays as three men walk in: Rabbi Krustofsky, Reverend Lovejoy, and MONSIGNOR KENNETH DALEY.

D.J. (CONT'D)

With us tonight, once again, are our
very own three wise men: Reverend
Timothy Lovejoy, Monsignor Kenneth
Daley, and Rabbi Hyman Krustofsky.

The men AD-LIB greetings.

D.J. (CONT'D)

Okay, and our first caller is from
Shelbyville Heights.

CALLER

Yes, hi, with all the suffering and
injustice in the world, do you ever
wonder if God really exists?

REV. LOVEJOY

No.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Not at all.

MONSIGNOR DALEY

(IRISH BROGUE) Not for a second.

D.J.

*

Great. Good conversation there. Our
next call now is for the good Rabbi.

There is a moment of silence.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Hello? Anybody there? I hear
breathing but I don't hear talking.
What's going on here? Hello, mister.
Hello... hello. Some people got
nothing to do but call people and hang
up. There's all kinds of meshugoyim in
this world.

CUT TO:

INT. KRUSTY'S HOUSE

We see Krusty SIGH and hang up.

INT. RADIO STATION - CONTINUOUS

D.J.

Okay, let's clear the board. Our next caller is a young boy from right here in Springfield.

BART

(OVER THE PHONE) Hi, I'm a first time caller, long time listener.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Bart is on the phone. Lisa stands next to him.

BART

My question is, "If a son defies his father, and chooses a career that makes millions of children happy, shouldn't the father forgive the son?"

INT. RADIO STATION - CONTINUOUS

REV. LOVEJOY

I think so.

MONSIGNOR DALEY

Yes, of course.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(GOING CRAZY) No way. Absolutely not. Never! Never! Who screens these calls? Whose in charge here? There's nobody in charge. They leave a building without people watching it and anybody who wants can call any stupid person they please...

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Bart is holding the phone with Lisa next to him. Rabbi Krustofsky continues to YELL over the radio. Bart hangs up.

BART

(DETERMINED) All right, rabbi. You win round one. But I've got a plan that can't fail.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. YIDDLE'S SHOP

Bart is dressed like a Hassidic Jew with pais and a long beard. Mr. Yiddle is putting a hat on Bart's head.

BART

Yiddle my man, you're a genius.

YIDDLE

(MODESTLY) I love my work.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Several RABBIS are TALKING on a park bench.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Oh, the best charity is to give and not let other people know.

RABBI #2

But what if your example encourages
others to give?

The other Rabbis nod and REPLY AFFIRMATIVELY as they stroke their beards thoughtfully. Hassidic Bart sticks his head out.

BART

Speaking of charity, Rabbi Krustofsky,
don't you think it's time you forgave
your son?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Get out of here you little pisher!

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM

Bart is sitting sadly in Lisa's room still wearing the long overcoat and beard, fanning himself with his hat.

BART

Oy, this guy's tough.

LISA

*

Bart, we're gonna have to out smart
him.

BART

*

I don't know, he's pretty sharp. He
saw right through this disguise.

Lisa picks up the phone.

INT. TEMPLE - RABBI'S OFFICE

Rabbi Krustofsky is on the phone.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

What? Isaac Bashevis Singer, the Nobel Prize winning Yiddish novelist. He wants to have lunch with me? Ah ah, It's a date! Izzy's Deli, one o'clock, I'll be there.

INT. KRUSTY'S OFFICE

Krusty's on the phone.

KRUSTY

The French government wants to give me The Legion of Honor? Where do I receive this prestigious award? Izzy's Deli, one o'clock. Thank you, Monsieur President.

CUT TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE

Bart is on the other end of the phone holding his nose.

BART

(ON PHONE) Au revoir.

Bart and Lisa smile at each other.

INT. IZZY'S DELI - ONE O'CLOCK

*

Rabbi Krustofsky sits in a booth and opens a menu. Peeking over the top of tall menus, Bart and Lisa spy on him.

WAITRESS

Are you kids ready to order yet?

BART

Sorry, no. Just get us another bowl of complimentary pickles.

WAITRESS

(SARCASTICALLY) Watch how fast I go.

She crosses over to the Rabbi.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

And for you sir?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

(READING MENU) Oh, let's see. I want a nice sandwich, but the Joey Bishop, ugh, too fatty... the Jackie Mason, I don't know, sauerkraut makes me gassy. The Bruce Willis, I don't even like his work... What is this?... Krusty the Clown!?

WAITRESS

That's ham, sausage and bacon with a smidge of mayo...

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(SHOCKED) What?

WAITRESS

... on white bread.

He SLAMS the menu shut.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Listen, you tell Mr. Isaac Bashevis Singer I lost my appetite.

He storms out as Krusty enters from the other side wearing a tux.

KRUSTY

(TO WAITRESS) Uh, could you direct me
to President Francois Mitterrand's
table?

WAITRESS

(SARCASTIC) You think you're funny?

KRUSTY

Fifty million Frenchmen can't be wrong.

PAN OVER to Bart and Lisa.

BART

(GROANING)

LISA

Bart, we've been going about this all
wrong. What's the one thing rabbis
prize above everything else?

BART

Those stupid hats?

LISA

No Bart. Knowledge.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY - DAY - ESTABLISHING

INT. SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY - DAY

Lisa and Bart are at the card catalogue.

LISA

*

Let's see... Judaism... ethical origins
of... guilt, guilt, guilt, guilt...
rodeo stars... Sammy Davis, Jr.. and
Torah, Torah, Torah...

DISSOLVE TO:

Lisa **READS** intently. She has a large pile of books beside her including: "Jewishness Revisited" "Views on Jews" "The Big Book of The Chosen people", etc. Bart is playing with a Jewish pop-up book. Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden pop up. Bart turns the page and we see Noah's Ark pop up. The ark is surrounded by anguished people. Bart pulls a tab and the people are engulfed in water. Bart does **FLOOD SOUND EFFECTS**.

BART

Ahhh, Noah, Noah, save us, save us...

No!!

LISA

This looks good Bart. Take it to him.

She hands Bart the paper.

INT. TEMPLE HALLWAY - LATER

Bart **KNOCKS** on the Rabbi's door. The Rabbi opens the door and recognizes Bart.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

You I told to go away.

The Rabbi starts to close the door, but Bart sticks his foot in the door and begins to **SPEAK**, reading off of Lisa's note.

BART

But... but... but, Rabbi, does it not
say in the Babylonian Talmud... And I
quote, "A child should be pushed aside
with the left hand, and drawn closer
with the right."

Upon hearing these words, the Rabbi slowly opens the door. His interest is piqued.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Yes.

BART

Then doesn't your religion command you
to make up with Krusty?

There is a moment of silent reflection.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

But in Exodus, the fifth commandment
says, "Honor thy Father and thy
Mother." End of story.

INT. SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY - DAY

Lisa is surrounded by books.

BART

Oh, it's hopeless.

LISA

Not quite. I got some dynamite stuff
from Rabbi Simon ben Eleazar.

INT. STEAMBATH - DAY

Bart and the Rabbi are wrapped in towels, enjoying a nice
steam. There are several other OLDER MEN in the steam
room.

BART

"At all times let a man be supple as a
reed and not rigid as a cedar."

All the old men GRUMBLE in agreement.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

But, my short learned friend, the Book
of Joshua says, "You shall meditate on
the Torah all day and all night."

The old men GRUMBLE LOUDER in agreement.

*

INT. SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY - LATER

Lisa is asleep in a study carrel. Bart pries a sheet of paper out from under her.

INT. GAMMILL'S HOME - DAY

Rabbi Krustofsky is performing a bris on a baby boy. Bart is bringing his point home.

BART

*

Is it not written in the Talmud, "Who
will bring redemption? The jesters."

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

Sorry my friend, I'm still not
convinced. And this is hardly the time
or place to discuss it.

The BABY CRIES.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY - DAY

Unaccustomed to the light, Lisa shields her eyes from the sun. Exhausted, she hands Bart her final research.

LISA

*

Here you go, Bart. It's a long shot,
but, that's all I can do without
learning ancient Hebrew.

Bart looks at her.

LISA (CONT'D)

(UPSET) Bart! I am not going to learn
ancient Hebrew.

Bart gives her a look and heads off.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Bart and the rabbi are hunched over a chessboard. Lisa looks on.

BART

(HOARSE) Rabbi, did not a great man say, "The Jews are a swinging bunch of people. I mean I've heard of persecution, but what they went through is ridiculous! But the great thing is after thousands of years of waiting and holding on and fighting, they finally made it."

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

Ohh, I never heard the plight of my people phrased so eloquently. Who said that, Rabbi Hillel?

BART

Nope.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

It was Judah the Pious?

BART

Nope.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Mamonides?

BART

Nope.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Oh, I got it -- the Dead Sea Scrolls.

BART

I'm afraid not, Rabbi. It's from "Yes,
I Can" by Sammy Davis Jr. An
entertainer.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(GASPS) The candy man?

The Rabbi sits down, STUNNED.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY (CONT'D)

If a performer can think that way,
maybe I'm completely upsidedown on this
whole problem. You know something,
you're a very studious little boy. Do
you do well in school?

BART

All A's sir.

LISA

(SCOWLING) Yeah, right.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

*

(BECOMING EMOTIONAL) All the years of
joy that I've lost. Why? Because of
my stubborn ways.

The Rabbi begins to CRY in the middle of the gardens.

LISA

There, there, Rabbi. You're getting
your beard all wet.

INT. KRUSTY SET - DAY

After several labored attempts a low-energy Krusty wearily
steps through a paper hoop.

KRUSTY

*

(WITH LITTLE ENTHUSIASM) Yeah, yeah,
yeah. Hi, kids... Today's show is
gonna be the funniest, sidesplittingest,
cavalcade of... ah the hell with it.
Roll the cartoon.

The lights go down. In the wings, Miss Pennycandy holds
the side door open as Bart and Lisa enter. Bart gestures
for someone to follow him. Krusty walks backstage for a
smoke.

BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Krusty lights a cigarette, shuts his eyes and INHALES
deeply.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Oh, yeah. (PATTING CIGARETTE PACKET IN
POCKET) My old friends, right next to
my heart.

Rabbi Krustofsky approaches, from the shadows.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Oy, such a filthy habit.

KRUSTY

*

(TURNING) Who asked you? (SHOCKED)
Father?

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Son!

KRUSTY

*

Papa!

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Hershel.

KRUSTY

*

Daddy.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

Boychik!

KRUSTY

Oh, Daddy...

They hug. Pennycandy wipes away a tear of joy. The cartoon is done and the lights come up.

STAGEHAND

You're on.

Krusty walks on stage.

KRUSTY

*

(TO THE CROWD) Boys and girls, I'd like to be serious for a moment if I may. Spotlight, please.

The lights dim and a spotlight appears. Krusty walks into the light and it moves away from him. He walks up to it again, and it moves again.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

*

I just wanted... I just wanted... Come on guys. I'm not kidding.

Krusty steps into the spotlight.

*

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

*

(SINCERE) Let's have a warm Krusty welcome for my estranged father, Rabbi Hyman Krustofsky.

Rabbi Krustofsky comes out on stage. The kids CHEER. Krusty steps into the spot and begins to SING to his father. After a few beats the orchestra JOINS IN.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

*

Lenny, if you please... (SINGING)

OH MEIN PAPA/ TO ME HE WAS SO

WONDERFUL/OH MEIN PAPA/ (SPOKEN) Come

on, Dad/ TO ME HE WAS SO GOOD/

(SPOKEN) You know the words.

KRUSTY/RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

NO ONE COULD BE/ SO GENTLE AND SO

LOVEABLE/ OH MEIN PAPA/ HE ALWAYS

UNDERSTOOD. (SPOKEN) Okay kids! Kroon

along with Krusty!

We SEE the following lyrics with a bouncing clown head supered over them.

KIDS/KRUSTY/RABBI

*

OH MY PAPA/ TO ME HE WAS SO

WONDERFUL/OH MY PAPA/ TO ME HE WAS SO

GOOD/ NO ONE COULD BE/ SO GENTLE AND SO

LOVEABLE/ OH MY PAPA/ HE ALWAYS

UNDERSTOOD.

DURING THE SONG

We see quick cuts of:

1) Bart, Lisa and Miss Pennycandy smiling broadly from backstage.

2) Homer and GRAMPA watch from the Simpson's living room.

HOMER

(EMOTIONALLY) I love you, Dad.

GRAMPA

(ANGRY) Why are we watching this?

3) The BARFLIES are watching Krusty on TV at Moe's Tavern.

*

MOE

*

(CHOKED-UP) I got somethin' in my eye.

BARNEY

*

Here, take my hanky.

Barney hands Moe a gross, disgusting hankkerchief.

MOE

*

Eeww!

4) Burns and Smithers are watching Krusty on TV in Mr. Burns' office.

*

SMITHERS

*

Permission to call you daddy, Sir?

BURNS

*

(CHUCKLES) Permission granted!

Burns tossles Smithers' hair.

*

BACK TO SCENE

The song concludes.

KRUSTY

We haven't seen each other in twenty-five years.

RABBI KRUSTOFSKY

(TO KRUSTY) Oh, I love you, son.

KRUSTY

I love you too, Daddy.

The Rabbi shoves a pie in Krusty's face. They share a LAUGH. Bart and Lisa smile.

FADE OUT.

THE END